

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A teaching device for an automatic cutting machine having a cutting table with a conveyor conveying the sheet along a longitudinal direction of the cutting area, a cutting head, and a cutting area on the table for placing a sheet within the cutting area, the cutting head being capable of cutting the sheet only within the cutting area, the teaching device, upon the designation of at least two teaching points on the sheet, computing a position and a slope of the sheet to the cutting area, correcting marking data including cutting pattern of parts to be cut out from the sheet in accordance with the position and the slope of the sheet, and cutting the sheet with corrected marking data, said teaching device comprising:

judgment means for judging whether the cutting pattern is contained within the cutting area, not contained within the cutting area along the longitudinal direction, after designation of the teaching points and the correction of the marking data, or not contained within the cutting area along a left-right direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction;

and subsidiary means for evaluating whether movement of the marking data along the longitudinal direction in such a way that all the parts are moved or movement of the sheet along the longitudinal direction will make the cutting pattern within the

cutting area, if the cutting pattern is not contained within the cutting area along the longitudinal direction; for moving the marking data along the longitudinal direction in such a way that all the parts are moved or the sheet along the longitudinal direction, if one of the movements is evaluated as making the cutting pattern within the cutting area; for evaluating whether movement of the marking data along the left-right direction in such a way that all the parts are moved will make the cutting pattern within cutting area; and for moving the marking data along the left-right direction in such a way that all the parts are moved, if movement along the left-right direction is evaluated as making or the sheet in position makes the cutting pattern within the cutting area, when the error is judged by the judgment means, and for correcting the marking data relative to the cutting area when it is evaluated that movement of the marking data will make the cutting pattern within the cutting area, or the sheet relative to the cutting area when it is evaluated that movement of the sheet in position will make the cutting pattern within the cutting area.

2-5. (Canceled)